



Greece - Introduction to Western Tradition and Contemporary Issues in Corfu, Greece

What did you learn and how was your project transformational?

I often heard upperclassmen talk about how transformative going abroad had been for them, but I found that to sound unwarrantedly dramatic- until I actually went. I learned the information that was a part of the curriculum, of course, but I learned so much about myself. Additionally, I learned how to take initiative, navigate an unknown city, adapt to and be cognoscente of different cultures, balance life's obligations with pleasure, and the value of observance/engrossment. I learned more during this one month of complete cultural emersion than I could have every imagine.

What was your favorite part of the experience?

One of my most favorite parts of my experience was the relationships I made. The situation and environment enabled me and my peers to become very close very quickly. These friendships have persisted past the end date of our program and will for years to come. These relationships are not limited to the other American students, however. I thoroughly enjoyed befriending locals, and staying in contact with them since leaving our home in Corfu. It is from those impromptu friendships that we learned some of their language and more about their culture. I also enjoyed trying new foods and the challenge such an adventure.

Name: Olivia Hersh

STEP Project Category: Education Abroad

STEP Faculty Member: Scott Demyan

Major: Strategic Communication

Project Description:

This program awards the participant with three credit hours that fulfill the general education history requirement. It is taught by local professors, and facilitated by OSU staff. Class is three hours a day, and includes a handful of group excursions. You live in a hotel and have free rein of the island, and even the surrounding countries.

What motivated you to select this project?

I came to college with studying abroad at the top of my bucket list. I intentionally saved my History GE in order to fulfil it in another country. I don't particularly love the subject, so I figured a beautiful place might make it a little enjoyable. The country was somewhat random, but perfect!

